Peterson, William

Principal, McGill University

Oct. 1916 - June 1917

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October 14th, 1916

Principal Sir William Peterson,

McGill University.

My dear Sir William:

I am not sure what Sir Gilbert Parker's Committee does. At present we are so busy distributing letters for the British Red Cross, the Patriotic and other funds that I am doubtful whether it would be worth our while making an especial appeal to the staff.

So far we have taken up no official attitude with regard to the proposals that have been recently issued concerning medical services in England. There is, however, I may say a very widespread feeling of indignation in certain circles and I should think an almost universal opposition to the proposal of segregating Canadian soldiers.

I hope that Lady Peterson is keeping better and that you are entering upon the work of the year with good health and vigour. There is a great feeling of loneliness about this University as the number of men students is very small indeed.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Peterson, William

Principal, McGill University

Oct. 1916 - June 1917

McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

October 17th. 1916.

President Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto. Ont.

My dear President,

Perhaps I did not make my meaning clear. Nothing would be needed in the way of an appeal to your staff: the literature is given away gratis and free for nothing. By this mail, I am sending you a sample parcel. All I meant was that I have more here than I can give away, and I shall be glad to send you a consignment, if you can make good use of it by handing them out to the staff or any casual visitor in your office.

What you say about the medical thing makes me regret all the more that I cannot have a talk with you. It was represented to me, and also to others by one of your staff on the way over, that the main reason for Colonel Bruce's appointment, and for some at least recommendations he has been making, was your indignation with General Jones for the way in which he had treated the Toronto Medical Unit. Mr. Fetherstonhaugh, who came over with me, could tell you a lot about this if you were to ask him.

Thanks for your kind enquiry about my wife. I had to leave her behind in England, but am glad to be able to report that she was very much better when I left her.

Yours very truly,

W. Peterson

Principal.

700.

October 19th, 1916

Principal Sir William Peterson,

McGill University.

My dear Principal:

I shall be glad to look through the parcel of literature that you are sending and distribute it as well as I possibly can.

There is absolutely nothing in the suggestion that this University had anything to do with Colonel Bruce's appointment. We have never been dissatisfied with General Jones, because as far as we are aware he has shown our unit every consideration. Whoever is responsible for the appointment of Colonel Bruce this University is not. We have simply granted him leave of absence. I should be glad to have you deny if you should ever hear of any suggestion that we were dissatisfied with the work of General Jones and endeavoured in the slightest measure to secure his removal.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

October 28th, 1916

Sir William Peterson,

Principal, McGill University.

My dear Sir William:

I am returning Professor Halliburton's letter to Sir William Osler. The details of it had already been given me by Macallum, and I have incorporated them in an application to the Carnegie Foundation, which I hope may be favourably received.

The pamphlets I have received, but I have not yet had time to look into them. Many thanks.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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February 5th, 1917

Sir William Peterson, K.C.M.G.,

Principal, McGill University.

Dear Sir William:

I am sending you a copy of the "Varsity Magazine Supplement". Please accept it from me. I am rather surprised that the editors have not already sent you one.

Your Annual Report has just reached me. I look forward to reading it with much interest.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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March 6th, 1917

Sir William Peterson, K.C.M.G.,

Principal, McGill University.

Dear Sir William:

You are a member of a committee appointed at the last Conference of Canadian Universities to correspond with the British and French Universities with the view to securing such arrangements as will increase the number of our graduates who will turn to the Universities of Britain and France for advanced work.

I am enclosing to you a draft of a letter that I have written to the authorities of the British Universities and to the French Universities. Will you be kind enough to make any suggestions that may occur to you and return it to me as soon as possible in order that I may correspond with these Universities at an early date ?

Yours sincerely,

President.

March 13th, 1917

Principal Sir William Peterson,

McGill University.

My dear Sir William:

Many thanks for your letter. I am sending the memorandum to each of the leading British Universities and to half a dozen of the French Universities.

I am glad of your suggestion with regard to Professor Schofield, and I shall be pleased to let him know what we are doing in the matter.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

March 30th. 1917.

President Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

My dear President,

We have received through local Headquarters a request from the Adjutant General to say whether along with Laval University we are prepared to carry on a special summer course to enable graduates who would in the usual order of things take their degrees in the Spring of 1918 to graduate at an earlier date.

Could you let me know at your earliest convenience if the same request has reached you in the same way?

The Medical Faculty has a meeting to-morrow week, Saturday, April 7th. when we shall deal with this matter.

Meanwhile, any information that you can send me as to the attitude of Toronto University will be highly appreciated and will assist me in discussing the matter with my medical colleagues in advance of this meeting.

Yours very truly,

W. Peterson

Principal.

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President's Secretary.

[illegible], 1917

Sir William Peterson, K.C.M.G.,

Principal, McGill University,

Montreal.

Dear Sir William:

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Yours sincerely,

President.

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McGILL UNIVERSITY

MONTREAL.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

June 20th. 1917.

President Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto. Ont.

My dear President,

I am sending you along with this a copy of President Pritchett's Report on page 61 of which is given his arguments about Medical Schools. As this is the only copy I have, I beg that you will keep it for me, and I shall be glad to get it back from you in due course.

As already stated, I have word that the Carnegie Corporation has set aside one million dollars for the organization of the Teachers Insurance and Annuities Association. One hundred thousand dollars of this amount is to be invested in Canadian Securities.

When you have time to give further thought to the question of a trustee to represent the Canadian Universites, I wish you would be good enough to let me hear from you.

Meanwhile,

I am,

Yours very truly,

W. Peterson

Principal.

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June 23rd, 1917

Sir William Peterson,

Principal, McGill University,

Montreal.

Dear Sir:

I am directed by President Falconer to acknowledge the receipt of the copy of Dr. Pritchett's Report, mentioned in your letter of the 20th inst. and to say that it will be returned to you when President Falconer has considered it.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.

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June 29th, 1917

Principal Peterson,

McGill University.

Dear Principal Peterson:

I have been asked to prepare an article for an English Journal on "The Canadian Universities and the War". I wish to have as correct information as possible , and would you kindly send me answers to the following questions:

How many of your graduates have enlisted for active service ?

How many of your undergraduates have enlisted for active service?

How many of your staff have enlisted for active service ?

How many have fallen ?

Would you please also give me any information on the activities of your University in connection with the war which may be of interest ?

I do not intend to give statistics dealing with any one University or to give details as to individual work, but shall endeavour of make as comprehensive an article as possible.

Yours sincerely,

President.